

**REMARKS**

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 9 have been amended, and claim 7 has been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been submitted.

Claims 1-6 and 8-9 are pending and under consideration.

As canceled claim 7 was indicated as including allowable subject matter, claim 7 has been incorporated into independent claims 1 and 9.

Thus, with there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

7/25/06

Respectfully submitted,  
STAAS & HALSEY LLP

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Stephen T. Boughner  
Registration No. 45,317

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
Telephone: (202) 434-1500  
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501